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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group Art Unit: 2664

Examiner: Shah, C.

Serial No.: 09/393,122

Filed: September 10, 1999

In re Application of: Gehring et al.

For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR MANAGING VARIABLE-SIZED
DATA SLOTS WITHIN A TIME DIVISION MULTIPLE ACCESS FRAME

Certificate of Mailing

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to Director of Patents, Box Non-Fee Amendment, Washington, D.C. 20231-0001, on 10-02-02, Signed Tina Bounds

Tina Bounds

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Director of Patents
Box Non-Fee Amendment
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith for filing with respect to the above-identified patent application, please find:


1. Amendment and Response to Office Action dated 7/03/02.

In the event the patent office charges a fee for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 CFR 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, the Assistant Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 50-0612.

Date: October 2, 2002

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Respectfully submitted,
SIERRA PATENT GROUP, LTD.


William P. Wilbar
Reg. No. 43,265

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AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Director of Patents
Box Non-Fee Amendment
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated July 3, 2002, kindly amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Claims

- ✓ Please cancel claims 1-9 and 11.
- ✓ Please amend claim 10 as follows:

10. In a network system having a master device and a plurality of slave devices in network communication with said master device, said network system employing a Time Division Multiple Access frame comprising a master sync section, a command section and a data slot section having a plurality of variable-length data slots comprising the steps of:

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